

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Military Manpower Potential of Eastern Germany
25X1C

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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Manpower Potential of Eastern Germany in October 1952.

1. The attached tabulation shows the manpower potential of Eastern Germany including East Berlin as computed on the basis of available material. Although this material is incomplete, it is comprehensive enough to enable one to arrive at usable values regarding the number of men fit for military service. This tabulation is based on the age groups established by the Soviet National Defense Act as it is to be expected that Eastern Germany as well as all the other satellites will follow the Soviet procedure in this respect.

Age group I includes the 19 to 34-year olds;

Age group II includes the 35 to 44-year olds;

Age group III includes the 45 to 49-year olds.

The 17 and 18 age group was included in the first age group, because this group will probably be drafted in the event of a mobilization, as happened in the U.S.S.R. during World War II. Under normal conditions, the 1933 class will be available for the draft in October 1952. However, it may be expected that the East German Government, in the event of the promulgation of a general military service law, would begin to draft the 1932 through 1928 classes which were not trained during WW II, in order to have them as a reserve. On the average, these year classes consist of 100,000 to 105,000 able-bodied men. About 85,000 of these classes are not yet serving with the Volkspolizei (VP) or the GSD, and would be available for induction. In Eastern Germany, the 1933 class, which according to the Soviet National Defense Act would be inducted in the fall of 1952, has approximately 90,000 men fit for military service who are still available. In order to establish and maintain an army of 24 full-strength divisions with a total of approximately 250,000 men, a minimum time for military service will have to be at least two years.

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2. Explanation of the Individual Columns of the Attached Tabulation.

Some of the figures contained in Columns Nos 7, 11, 16, 18 and 20 are rough estimates. Other figures were calculated exactly, although they may appear to be of minor importance. The final figure is as accurate as possible.

Column No 1 lists the individual age classes. The designation of these classes is not quite correct, as they include all the males born between October of one year and the corresponding month of the following year. Thus for instance, the 1933 class is comprised of those born between 30 October 1932 and 29 October 1933. The second and third age groups, i.e. the 36 through 45-year old group and the 46 through 50-year-old group have not been broken down into the individual classes, as the induction of a single class of this age group is out of question.

Column No 2 lists the male population of Eastern Germany, exclusive of East Berlin, as was recorded at the general census held on 29 October 1946. The figures were taken from the supplement to Statistische Praxis, issue No 6 of June 1948.

Column No 3 contains the male population of East Berlin as of 1 January 1947. The figures were taken from the Berliner Statistik, issue No 2 of 1947, as published by the Statistical Office for Metropolitan Berlin. In this publication, statistical figures are consolidated for groups of two to five classes each, and therefore, a mean figure for each individual class had to be calculated on the basis of conditions prevailing in Eastern Germany. The difference in the dates of the census held in Berlin and Eastern Germany, i.e. October 1946 and January 1947, is considered immaterial.

Column No 4 represents the rounded-off total of the figures contained in Columns Nos 2 and 3, and is an approximate total of the male population living in Eastern Germany inclusive of East Berlin in October 1946.

Column No 5 contains the yearly number of deaths per 1,000 of the individual classes. According to East German publications, the death rate was as follows:

1947: 13.9
1948: 15.1
1949: 15.0

On the basis of these figures, the death rates for 1950 and 1951 were estimated at 14.9 and 14.3 respectively. This results in an annual average of 15.7 deaths for the six-year period from 1947 through 1952.

The death rate for the individual age classes was available only for 1938 from the Statistisches Jahrbuch fuer das Deutsche Reich, issue of 1939/1940. According to this, the average death rate of this class of the population was 12.2 i.e. 77 percent of the above mentioned death rate of 15.7. By increasing the figures proportionally, an estimate of the death rate for each age class was arrived at.

Column No 6 lists the number of deaths during the 6-year period from 1947 through 1952.

Column No 7 lists estimated figures of those men who fled to East Berlin and Western Germany exclusive of the number of VP deserters. According to estimates for 1947, 1948 and 1949 made by the Bundesministerium fuer Gesamtdeutsche Fragen (Ministry for All-German Affairs), the following number of men fled to Western Germany:

1947: 7,000
1948: 10,000
1949: 101,000

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1950 and 1951: approximately 50,000 per year

1952: about 30,000 prior to 15 August. (The estimates for 1950 to 15 August 1952 are based on available reports). This would approximate a total of 110,000. This figure includes about 6,300 VP deserters, which number was computed on the assumption that an average of 150 men fled every month during the period from 1949 through 1952.

No data were available on the age structure of the refugees. Most of the VP deserters belonged to the 1918 through 1932 classes. For this reason, 100 men were entered in Column No 8 for these classes. For lack of pertinent records, the 104,000 male refugees were distributed among all age groups from 1 to 55 years. The average was 7,300 men per class but this figure was slightly modified according to the varying strength of the individual age classes.

Column No 8 lists the number of VP personnel who fled to Western Germany. Also refer to the remarks for Column 7 above.

Column No 9 represents estimates of the number of men deported to the U.S.S.R. or compulsorily recruited for work there. According to a study by the Federal Ministry for All-German Affairs, 25,000 and 18,000 men were affected by these measures in 1947 and 1948 respectively. A rough average of 2,100 men for each of the classes of the 1922 through 1903 age group, who were at that time fully fit for work, was used.

Column No 10 contains estimates of the numbers of men who entered Eastern Germany from the area of the Oder-Neisse line. According to material published in Statistische Praxis und Wirtschaft und Statistik, the following numbers of men in the 11 to 65 age group were resettled during the period from 1947 through 1949:

1947: 113,000
1948: 73,000
1949: 29,000

Assuming that approximately 10,000 men were resettled in 1950 and 1951, this would result in a total of 230,000 men. By distributing this total between the age groups of 1 to 50 years, an average of 1,600 is arrived at.

Column No 11 contains estimates of the numbers of P.s. returned to Eastern Germany after October 1946. According to a study made by the Federal Ministry for All-German Affairs (in booklet Bonner Berichte 1951), the following number of P.s. returned during the period from 1947 through 1949:

1947: 205,000
1948: 210,000
1949: 135,000

These figures would total 535,000 when an estimated 30,000 returnees for 1950, and 5,000 for 1951 were added. For the 1927 through 1923 classes, which were mainly affected by P. captivity, this would average 17,000 returnees per age class during the period from 1945 to 1952. This number was graduated according to the strength of the classes concerned, and with consideration of the age structure of the German Armed Forces as of 1945.

Column No 12. A computation of the number of males living in Eastern Germany in October 1952. (Column No 1 minus the sum of the figures contained in Columns 5 through 9 plus the sum of the figures in Columns 10 and 11).

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Column No 13 lists the number of males of foreign citizenship and non-German origin living in Eastern Germany and probably not subject to the draft. In October 1952, this category totaled 20,300 men. It is believed that this number has not essentially changed in the meantime. Presupposing that this number of men is to be distributed upon 60 age classes, this would result in an average total of 300 for each class. The pertinent information was obtained from issue No 6, June 1952, of Statistische Praxis.

Column No 14 is an estimate of the total of men detained in jails and forced labor camps. According to the newspaper Telegraf of 1 Mar 1951, this category amounted to 45,000 men. Assuming that about 35,000 of them were males, this would result in a total of 800 men for each of the 20 through 65 age classes. This figure was reduced for the 17 through 21 age classes.

Column No 15 represents an estimate of those disabled in World War II. According to the 1947 Yearbook of Deutsche Verwaltung fuer Arbeit und Sozialfürsorge (German Administration for Labor and Social Welfare) of Eastern Germany, approximately 1,07,000 disabled persons were registered in Eastern Germany in January 1947. Assuming that about 250,000 of them were disabled through enemy action including bombing during the last war, it follows that there were about 6,000 disabled men in each of the 1927 through 1957 classes, which comprises the 18 through 53-year-olds. Persons disabled through other accidents are listed in Column No 16.

Column No 16 contains an estimate of the number of men unfit for military service. This estimate is based on an empirical percentage value, as was obtained from various computations of the German manpower potential in World War II and on the Soviet post-war potential. It is assumed that an average of 12 percent of men who are unfit for military service exist in the 18 through 45 age group. Both Western statisticians and the Soviet Intelligence Service (See Information Booklet on the German Armed Forces, issued by the General Staff of the Soviet Army in 1943) agree on the figure. This percentage increases from a ratio of four percent for the youngest year classes to 30 percent for those 50 years old.

Column No 17 represents the estimate of the number of men fit for military service in October 1952. (Column 12 minus the sum of the figures contained in Column Nos 13 through 16).

Column No 18 lists the estimated figures of those men, who may be deferred from military service, as they are required in the armaments industry in wartime. For lack of more reliable records, a Soviet estimate of the German 1942 quota of the 18 through 45-year-olds who were deferred from military service, was used. This estimate puts the number of those men as high as 15.4 percent. (See Information Booklet on the German Armed Forces, issued by the General Staff of the Soviet Army in 1943). Western statisticians assume that a minimum of 5 percent of the youngest year classes will be required by the armaments industry in wartime. On the basis of these approximate values, the percentage of men deferred from military service owing to their employment in the armaments industry was graduated from 5 percent for the 17 through 19 age classes to 30 percent for the 46 through 50 classes.

Column No 19 contains the approximate figures of the maximum number of men available in the event of mobilization in October 1952. (Columns No 17 minus Column No 18).

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Column No 20 lists the estimates according to percentage and numbers of those industrial workers deferred from military service in peacetime inductions. The percentage figure is related to the total of men fit for military service (See Column No 17) and for lack of any pertinent data, was calculated by doubling the percentage of wartime deferments. This percentage was still further increased for the youngest age classes, in order to make allowance for the deferments usually granted for training purposes in time of peace. The category of the 36 through 50 age classes was omitted, as the men of this group are too old for peacetime inductions.

Column No 21 lists the number of men available for a peacetime army in October 1952. (Column No 17 minus Column No 20).

Column No 22 contains the estimates of the numbers of men already serving with the VP or the SSB. The pertinent figures were estimated as follows:

VP of the NVA:	95,000 men
VP of the NVS:	6,000 men
VP of the NVL:	1,000 men
VP of the NVDVP:	63,000 men
Border Police under the Ministry of State Security:	22,000 men
Total:	197,000 men

It is believed that these figures contain the following estimated numbers of men in the 18 through 25 age group:

VP of the NVA:	60,000 men (after the recruiting campaign of the summer of 1952)
VP of the NVS:	4,000 men
VP of the NVL:	300 men
VP of the NVDVP:	15,000 men
Border Police:	8,000 men
SSB:	2,000 men
Total:	about 90,000 men

It may therefore be assumed that an average of 13,000 men of the younger classes is already serving with a para-military organization. The 1930 and 1931 classes probably are the numerically strongest of the classes serving with a para-military organization. It is assumed that 107,000 men are from among the 26 through 55-year old age classes. The number per class was graduated according to age.

Column No 23 gives the number of able-bodied men still available for the draft in eastern Germany in the fall of 1952.

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Age Group	1) Year Class (born prior to October of the year con- cerned	2) Males, as of Octo- ber 1946 in Eastern Germany, except Berlin	3) Males, as of January 1947 in East Berlin	4) Total Number of Males in Eastern Ger- many incl. East Berlin as of the end of 1946
I	1935 (under 10)	162,199	3,100	170,300
	1934	144,979	7,600	152,600
	1933	121,899	6,800	128,700
	1932	126,103	5,970	132,100
	1931	132,219	6,000	138,200
	1930	139,852	6,000	145,000
	1929	133,651	6,050	139,700
	1928	118,106	5,200	124,000
	1927	84,947	4,800	89,700
	1926	66,918	3,300	70,200
	1925	63,537	3,200	66,700
	1924	56,116	3,100	59,900
	1923	57,614	3,100	60,700
	1922	64,123	3,150	67,300
	1921	70,028	3,400	73,400
	1920	76,151	3,500	79,700
	1919	46,650	3,100	49,800
	1918	35,058	2,900	38,000
II	1917 - 1908	727,950	55,500	783,500
III	1907 - 1903	544,705	38,600	583,300
	Total	2,974,205	179,470	3,152,600

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5) Yearly Death Rate per thousand	6) Number of Deaths within 5 Years	7) Refugees to the Zones Civilians	8) Refugees to the Western Zones Volkspolizei	9) Males deported to the East
2.9	2,960	8,200	-	-
2.9	2,660	8,200	-	-
2.9	2,240	8,200	-	-
2.9	2,300	8,500	400	-
4.4	3,640	9,000	400	-
4.4	3,830	9,500	400	-
4.4	3,700	9,000	400	-
4.4	3,270	8,800	400	-
4.4	2,380	8,200	400	-
4.5	1,890	7,800	400	-
4.5	1,810	7,500	400	-
4.5	1,620	7,300	400	-
4.5	1,650	7,300	400	-
4.5	1,820	7,300	400	2,100
4.7	2,060	7,300	400	2,100
4.7	2,260	7,300	400	2,100
4.7	1,410	7,000	400	2,100
4.7	1,070	6,000	400	2,100
6.8	32,000	73,000	300	21,000
10.3	36,000	36,500	-	10,500
	110,570	252,000	6,300	42,000

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10) Resettlers from behind the Oder-Neisse Line	11) Returned P.s	12) Number of Sales, as of October 19 82
4,600	-	163,700
4,600	-	146,300
4,600	-	122,900
4,600	-	125,500
4,600	-	129,800
4,600	-	135,900
4,600	-	131,200
4,600	-	116,100
4,600	1,000	87,300
4,600	8,000	72,700
4,600	16,000	77,600
4,600	10,000	73,200
4,600	20,000	76,000
4,600	22,000	82,300
4,600	23,000	89,100
4,600	24,000	96,200
4,600	25,000	68,500
4,600	24,000	57,000
46,000	220,000	923,000
23,000	80,000	603,000
151,000	304,000	3,377,300

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13) Non-German Origin	14) Prisoners	15) Disabled Veterans	16) Other unfit Males	17) Physically fit Males as of October 1952
300	100	-	6,500 (4 %)	156,800
300	300	-	5,900 (4 %)	139,800
300	400	-	4,900 (4 %)	117,300
300	500	-	5,000 (4 %)	119,700
300	600	-	5,200 (4 %)	123,700
300	800	-	5,400 (4 %)	129,400
300	800	-	6,600 (5 %)	123,500
300	800	-	5,800 (5 %)	109,200
300	800	500	4,400 (5 %)	81,300
300	800	2,000	3,600 (5 %)	66,000
300	800	4,000	3,900 (5 %)	58,600
300	800	6,000	5,100 (7 %)	61,000
300	800	6,000	5,300 (7 %)	63,600
300	800	6,000	5,300 (7 %)	62,400
300	800	6,000	6,200 (7 %)	75,800
300	800	6,000	6,700 (7 %)	82,400
300	800	6,000	6,200 (9 %)	55,200
300	800	6,000	5,100 (9 %)	44,800
3,000	8,000	60,000	110,600 (12 %)	741,200
1,500	4,000	30,000	132,700 (22 %)	434,600
9,900	24,300	138,500	341,100	2,863,500

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18) Males deferred in case of mobilization (minimum)	19) Males available in case of no- bilization (Figures rounded off)	20) Males deferred from peace-time military ser- vice	21) Males available for peace-time military ser- vice in 1952 (Figures rounded off)	22) Males already serving with para-military organizations in August 1952	23) Males still available for induc- tion in case of compulsory military service as of fall 1952
7,800 (5 %)	119,000	23,500 (15 %)	133,000	-	133,000
7,000 (5 %)	133,000	21,000 (15 %)	119,000	1,000	115,000
5,900 (5 %)	111,000	17,600 (15 %)	100,000	10,000	90,000
7,200 (6 %)	113,000	19,200 (16 %)	101,000	11,000	87,000
7,400 (6 %)	116,000	19,800 (16 %)	101,000	16,000	88,000
10,400 (8 %)	119,000	22,000 (17 %)	107,000	17,000	90,000
9,900 (8 %)	111,000	21,000 (17 %)	103,000	15,000	88,000
9,800 (9 %)	99,000	19,700 (18 %)	90,000	11,000	76,000
7,300 (9 %)	74,000	11,600 (18 %)	67,000	12,000	55,000
5,900 (9 %)	60,000	11,900 (18 %)	51,000	10,000	41,000
7,500 (11 %)	61,000	15,100 (22 %)	51,000	8,000	46,000
6,700 (11 %)	54,000	13,400 (22 %)	48,000	6,000	42,000
7,000 (11 %)	57,000	11,000 (22 %)	50,000	5,000	41,000
9,000 (13 %)	60,000	18,000 (26 %)	51,000	6,000	45,000
9,900 (13 %)	66,000	19,700 (26 %)	56,000	5,000	51,000
10,700 (13 %)	72,000	21,400 (26 %)	61,000	5,000	55,000
8,300 (15 %)	47,000	16,600 (30 %)	39,000	4,000	35,000
6,700 (15 %)	38,000	13,400 (30 %)	31,000	0,000	27,000
118,200 (20 %)	593,000				
130,400 (30 %)	301,000				
423,000	2,110,000				